

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AF-10 /141 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/IAI:WTCLUVERIUS:KHA

APPROVED BY NEA - ALFRED L. ATHERTON, JR.

IO/UNP - MR. STULL

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R 132347Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 029905

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, UR, UN

SUBJECT: ISRAELI CONCERN RE EXTENSION UNEF MANDATE

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

1. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DINITZ TELEPHONED DEPTASSTSEC ATHERTON FEB 13 TO SAY THAT ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM FONMIN EBAN GOI WOULD LIKE DISCUSS WITH USG SOON PROBLEM OF EXTENSION UNEF MANDATE, PRESENTLY DUE EXPIRE APRIL 74. DINITZ SAID THAT GOI CONCERNED, THOUGH IT HAS NO DEFINITE INFORMATION RE SOVIET INTENTIONS, THAT IN ORDER AVOID POSSIBLE USG VETO ON UNEF REMOVAL, SOVIETS MIGHT MAKE DIFFICULTIES WHEN IT COMES TO EXTEND UNEF MANDATE.

2. ATHERTON REPLIED THAT THIS INDEED SUBJECT TO BE LOOKED INTO BUT THAT IT WILL FIRST BE NECESSARY FOR US TO
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CONSIDER THIS POSSIBLE PROBLEM WITHIN USG. ATHERTON SAID

THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE WE HAVE NO INDICATIONS THAT ANYONE INTENDS MAKE ANY PROBLEMS OVER EXTENSION UNEF MANDATE BEYOND APRIL.

3. ATHERTON ASKED IF GOI HAD ANY IDEAS ON HOW TO HANDLE JOINT DISCUSSION OF THIS PROBLEM. DINITZ RESPONDED THAT IN EVENT SUBJECT HAD COME UP IN TALKS BETWEEN SECRETARY AND GROMYKO, PERHAPS USG ALREADY HAD IDEA OF SOVIET

INTENTION RE FUTURE OF UNEF. ATHERTON INTERJECTED THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE THAT THIS HAD COME UP BUT THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO IT. DINITZ CONTINUED THAT, OF COURSE, THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM IF SOVIETS AND U.S. COULD AGREE BEFOREHAND AND GIVE ASSURANCES THAT THEY WISHED TO RENEW UNEF MANDATE. IF, HOWEVER, USG THINKS THAT SOVIETS MIGHT CHOOSE ISSUE OF UNEF MANDATE AS ONE IN WHICH TO TOSS THEIR WEIGHT AROUND, THEN GOI AND USG, IN THEIR MUTUAL INTEREST WOULD HAVE A PROBLEM WHICH THEY OUGHT TO ADDRESS JOINTLY. DINITZ SUGGESTED, JUST OFFHAND, THAT PERHAPS ONE PARLIAMENTARY TACTIC THAT MIGHT PROVE USEFUL WOULD BE FOR FIRST EXTENSION OF UNEF MANDATE TO BE FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD. ATHERTON SAID WE WOULD EXAMINE PROBLEM WITHIN USG AND BE IN TOUCH. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLLUTION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, REORGANIZATIONS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE029905
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WTCLUVERIUS:KHA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740234/aaaabgdy.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELI CONCERN RE EXTENSION UNEF MANDATE GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
TAGS: PFOR, IS, UR, UN, UNEF
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005